

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An automatic gain control (AGC) circuit  
~~comprising-comprising:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a digitally-digitally-controlled amplifier being provided~~  
~~withhaving~~ a gain control loop including a level detector, a  
5 threshold circuit and a digital gain control signal generator being  
coupled to a gain control input of the digitally-controlled  
amplifier for supplying thereto a digital gain control signal,  
characterized ~~by~~ in that said AGC circuit further comprises:

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a continuously-continuously-controlled amplifier being~~  
10 coupled between an output of the ~~digitally-digitally-controlled~~  
amplifier and the level detector, an output of the level detector  
further being coupled to a gain control input of the ~~continuously~~  
continuously-controlled amplifier for supplying thereto an  
continuous gain control signal, the gain variation range of the  
15 ~~continuously-continuously-controlled~~ amplifier at least  
corresponding to ~~the~~ a gain step variation of the ~~digitally~~  
digitally-controlled amplifier at an incremental step of said  
digital gain control signal.

2. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 1, characterized by in that said AGC circuit further  
comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ a loop filter being coupled between the output of the  
5 level detector, ~~on the one hand~~ and the gain control input of the  
continuously controlled amplifier and an input of the threshold  
circuit ~~on the other hand~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 1, characterized in that the threshold circuit comprises  
first and second comparators for comparing ~~the~~ an output signal of  
the level detector with positive and negative threshold levels  
5 around a zero level for initiating the digital gain control signal  
generator for a stepwise variation of the gain of the ~~digitally~~  
digitally-controlled amplifier.

4. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 13, characterized in that the digital gain control signal  
generator comprises a pulse generator coupled to a clock-signal  
input of a digital counter for supplying a clock-signal thereto,  
5 the threshold circuit including a third comparator for comparing  
the output signal of the level detector with a zero level, an  
output of the third comparator being coupled to an up/down input of  
the counter.

5. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 3, characterized in that the gain variation range of the  
~~continuously~~ continuously-controlled amplifier ~~caused~~-defined by  
~~the a~~ range of the continuous gain control signal between the  
5 negative and positive threshold levels, corresponds at least to the  
gain variation of the ~~digitally~~ digitally-controlled amplifier over  
two consecutive incremental steps of said digital gain control  
signal.

6. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 4, characterized in that the time period between two  
consecutive clock pulses of the clock-signal is chosen sufficiently  
large to prevent superposition of subsequent gain step variations  
5 of the ~~digitally~~ digitally-controlled amplifier from occurring.

7. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 12, characterized in that ~~the a~~ time-constant of the loop-  
filter is chosen sufficiently large to prevent regenerative  
feedback of the gain control signal in the AGC loop from occurring.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Receiver~~ A receiver for ~~digitally~~  
digitally-modulated signals comprising an AGC circuit as claimed in  
claim 1, characterized ~~by~~ in that said receiver further comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ an RF input filter for receiving digitally-modulated  
5 signals, said the digitally-digitally-controlled amplifier of said  
AGC circuit being coupled between to an output of said RF input  
filter and;  
\_\_\_\_\_ a phase quadrature mixer stage, coupled to the output of  
said digitally-controlled amplifier;  
10 respective frequency selective means coupled to phase  
quadrature outputs of said phase quadrature mixer stage; thereof  
being coupled through frequency selective means to  
\_\_\_\_\_ a pair of phase quadrature ~~continuously~~ continuously-  
controlled amplifiers forming said continuously-controlled  
15 amplifier of said AGC circuit, this; and  
\_\_\_\_\_ respective analog-to-digital converters coupling said pair  
of phase quadrature ~~continuously~~ continuously-controlled amplifiers  
being coupled through to a pair of phase quadrature analogue to  
digital converters to said the level detector of said AGC circuit.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Receiver~~ The receiver as claimed in  
claim 8, characterized in that the receiver is a DAB receiver.